



**Salida Middle School**

520 Milford Street

Salida, CO 81201

719-530-5300

<http://salidaschools.com/>

March 1, 2021

Dear Longfellow 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent,

It has been an unusual school year for sure and it is hard to believe that next fall will be here before we know it and that your 4<sup>th</sup> graders will be beginning their middle school journey. I know that everyone here at SMS is super excited about meeting and getting to know our new SMS family members.

In my 25+ years in middle school, I have found that this transition from elementary to middle school can be harder on parents than it is on kids. Therefore, we want to make sure that all Longfellow parents and students are as comfortable, prepared, and as ready for middle school as possible.

We would like to invite students and parents to SMS for our 2021 meet & greet and building tour on **Wednesday, March 17**. Due to the size of the current 4<sup>th</sup>-grade class, we will do TWO identical sessions that evening.

**Last names A-L – 4:30-5:15**

**Last names M-Z – 5:30-6:15**

During these 45 minute sessions, you will get a chance to tour the building, meet your teachers, ask questions, see classrooms and hear about all of the great opportunities and activities that occur here at SMS (including band/choir sign up). The purpose of this event is simple, to begin to develop great school-to-home relationships and to begin to put names and faces together.

Here at SMS, our focus is not just an academic one. We believe that the whole child is important. In addition to top-flight academic classes and lifelong learning opportunities, we will also be addressing social and emotional development and character education.

In the fall, we will be placing all fifth graders in their core classes. They will also rotate through elective classes: Art, Computers, Physical Education, Teen Issues as well as Music and Band options.

Our entire fifth-grade team, along with input from the fourth-grade teachers and the Special Education department, will work with myself and our counselor to appropriately schedule and place your child in their classes. Class placement information will be available on-line through the Parent Portal in Infinite Campus a few days before school starts in August.

Please know that all of us at SMS are here for you. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns or would like information before next fall.

I am always looking for ways to improve everything we do here at school and I look forward to meeting all of you very soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Wooddell', written in a cursive style.

William Wooddell  
Principal - Salida Middle School  
Salida School District R-32-J  
*"A District of Distinction"*  
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